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The grains, barley and oats, showed little effect on the quantity of straw, but a noticeable increase in seed production occurred on plants grown on the soil used (Miami silt loam).

Elemental sulphur, added as flowers, was usually toxic even in the presence of calcium, probably because of its incomplete oxidation to sulphites. Where bases are deficient, the toxicity may be due to accumulation of sulphuric acid from the complete oxidation of the sulphur.—CHARLES A. SHULL.

British Columbia forests.—Mount Robson, British Columbia, situated at practically the present northern known limit of the continental divide, has been visited by COOPER²² and found to possess 2 climax forest types, one for each of 2 climatic zones. Up to an altitude of 1000 m. the forest is of the Pacific Coast type, with a dominance of *Thuja plicata*. *Picea Engelmanni* is next in abundance, and is followed by *Abies lasiocarpa*, *Tsuga heterophylla*, and *Pseudotsuga mucronata*. The undergrowth shows such truly mesophytic forms as *Acer glabrum*, *Azaleastrum albiflorum*, *Phegopteris Dryopteris*, *Clin-tonia uniflora*, *Moneses uniflora*, and *Pyrola uliginosa*.

Above this is a subalpine zone extending up to 2000 m., with a climax forest of *Picea Engelmanni*, *Abies lasiocarpa*, and *Pinus albicaulis*. In the undergrowth *Menziesia ferruginea*, *Cornus canadensis*, and several species of *Pyrola* are conspicuous. The successions upon rock surface, talus, moraine, and shingle flat are noted, those of the two last in most detail. Upon the moraine *Dryas octopetala* and *Arctostaphylos rubra* are followed by shrubby species of *Betula* and *Salix*, leading to the third stage, which is the climax forest. A similar set of stages is found upon the shingle flat, although here, probably because of the lack of any fine soil material, the succession advances much less rapidly than upon the moraine.

While COOPER expresses regret at the few data available for this study, it will be welcomed as giving an insight into the vegetation of an almost unknown region.—GEO. D. FULLER.

Large trees.—A recent contest for two prizes of \$100 each, offered through the *Journal of Heredity*,²³ for photographs and data regarding the largest trees in the United States, barring conifers, resulted in photographs of 337 trees. The prize for the largest non-nut-bearing tree was won by a *Platanus occidentalis* near Worthington, Indiana, with a circumference, 5 ft. from the ground, of 42.25 ft., and a height of about 150 ft. The largest nut-bearing tree in the competition was a *Quercus lobata* on the foothills of the Sierra Nevada Mountains, in San Benito County, California, with a circumference of 37.5 ft. and a height of 125 ft. The largest specimens of other species were as follows: *Ulmus americana* at Morgantown, West Virginia, with a circumference of 33

²² COOPER, W. S., Plant succession in the Mount Robson region, British Columbia. *Plant World* 19:211-238. figs. 8. 1916.

²³ Photographs of large trees. *Jour. Heredity* 6:407-429. 1915.